

Application No.: 09/217,035  
10/25/2001

6. A method for compacting a diffuse gray edge, comprising the steps of:  
~~The method according to claim 1~~

identifying an observation window within continuous tone image data, said observation window including a target pixel; and  
compacting vertical features within said observation window, wherein said step of compacting vertical features comprises:  
determining if said target pixel is within a diffuse vertical edge;  
shifting gray from a first pixel (A) that is not adjacent to a saturated pixel to a second pixel (B) that is adjacent to a saturated pixel; and  
updating a pixel value in response to said shifting step.

8. A method for compacting a diffuse gray edge, comprising the steps of:  
identifying an observation window within continuous tone image data, said observation window including a target pixel;  
compacting horizontal features within said observation window;  
compacting vertical features within said observation window; and  
compacting corner features within said observation window  
~~The method according to claim 1, wherein:~~

said step of compacting horizontal features modifies said target pixel and a first pixel adjacent said target pixel by shifting gray between said target pixel and said first pixel when said target pixel is within a diffuse horizontal edge;  
said step of compacting vertical features modifies said target pixel and a second pixel adjacent said target pixel by shifting gray between said target pixel and said second pixel when said target pixel is within a diffuse vertical edge; and  
said step of compacting corner features modifies a pixel within said compaction window when said target pixel is within a diffuse corner.

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10. A method for compacting a diffuse gray edge, comprising the steps of  
~~method according to claim 1, wherein said step of compacting corner features~~  
~~comprises:~~

Identifying an observation window within continuous tone image data, said  
observation window including a target pixel;

determining if said target pixel is within a diffuse corner;

shifting gray from a first pixel (A) that is not adjacent to a saturated pixel to  
a second pixel (B) that is adjacent to a saturated pixel; and

updating a pixel value in response to said shifting step.